

PROBABLY THE FINEST LOGO IN THE WORLD...

PROG 494
1 NOV 86

81.80 Malaysia
70c Australia
77c New Zealand
(inc G.S.T.)
88g Mercury
210g Venus
88g Mars
110g Saturn
2g Pluto
429g Neptune

26P
EARTH
MONEY

IN ORBIT
EVERY
MONDAY



NERVE CENTRE

BORAG THUNGG, EARTHLETS.

Welcome to the galaxy's greatest comic! "I wonder, O Mighty Tharg." I hear you muse, "how it came to pass that Marlon Shakespeare – better known on the pedway as 'Chopper' – first came to the attention of *Judge Dredd*? And I wonder," you continue to muse, "what twists of fate led Johnny Alpha to become the man he is today? And also," you add, "what the events were that led to the creation of the *Strontium Dogs*?" It is funny that you should ponder in this manner, Terrans, for all these things – and more – are explained in *The Best Of 2000 AD Monthly* *15, which by an amazing coincidence is going on sale any day now. "Un-American Graffiti" is the classic tale about Scrawl Wars in Mega-City 1, in which Chopper made his first appearance, while "Portrait Of A Mutant" ... all 104 zarjaz pages of it ... looks back to the origins of Johnny Alpha. Of course, your feeble circuits would overload if you tried to take in all 104 pages in one go, which is why 64 of them will occupy the entire issue of *The Best Of 2000 AD Monthly* *16!

SPLUNDIG VUR THRIGG!

THARG

THRILL-POWER OVERLOAD!

Drawn by Earthlet Stephen Hill, Carmarthen. £10 Winner.



JUDGE DREDD: JUST ENOUGH?

Dear Tharg,

Looking back at recent *Judge Dredd* stories, including the one in the Sci-Fi Special – "Beyond The Wall" – it seems to me that the Judges are being shown in rather a harsh light; the injustice of justice, so to speak. Is there a subversive element in the Command Module? Or is this a disguised statement about the current police force? Or am I being too clever by half?

From Earthlet Ivor Coffey, Lisburn, Northern Ireland. £2.50 Winner.

You are being too clever by half, and I have adjusted your prize groatage accordingly.

READY WHEN YOU ARE, GEORGE...

Dear Most Exalted One,

Over the July 4th weekend my wife and I attended the Chicago Comicon, and were dismayed to find no dealers with back issues of 2000 AD. The only good news we had came from the guest art droid, George Perez. When he was asked if there was any comic character whom he had not drawn that he wished he could, he replied "*Judge Dredd*!" Of course, I know this is not news to the great Tharg, but I thought your readers might be interested. Also, just as a point of information, we generally receive 2 progs together every fortnight here in Ohio. I am very careful to watch my thrill-power level when I read them, but I am unable to leave one of the progs for each week, and I read them both on the same day. Will this kill me?

From Earthlet Michael C. Mallory, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, USA. Floral Tribute Winner.

Yup.



GENETIC THARG

Drawn by Earthlet Andrew Avgousti, Enfield. £10 Winner.

Each week Tharg displays your drawings and letters on his Nerve Centre. There are big cash prizes for every entry published, so write to him now! The address is: THARG'S NERVE CENTRE, THE COMMAND MODULE, KING'S REACH TOWER, STAMFORD STREET, LONDON SE1 9LS.

List your three favourite stories IN THIS PROG on the coupon and enclose it with your entry.

1.
2.
3.

I Dislike:

My Age is 494

20 DROIDS TAKE COVER!

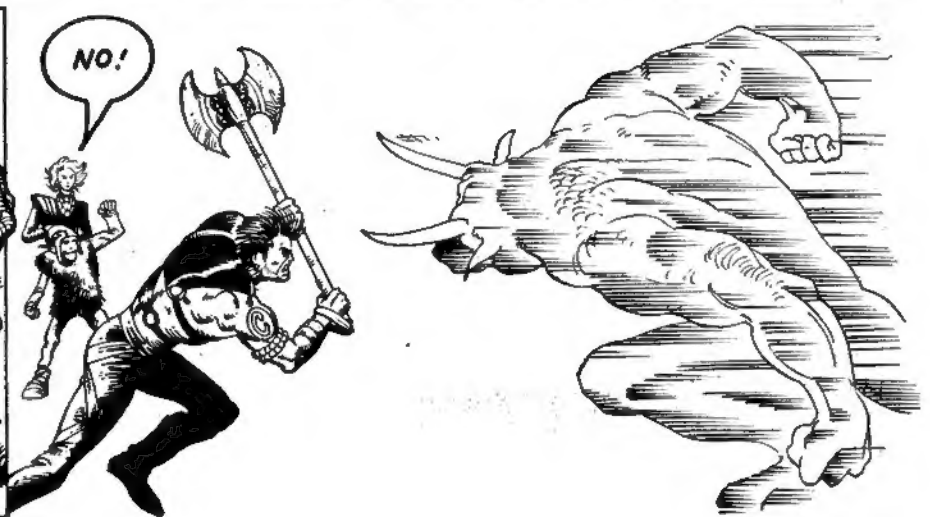
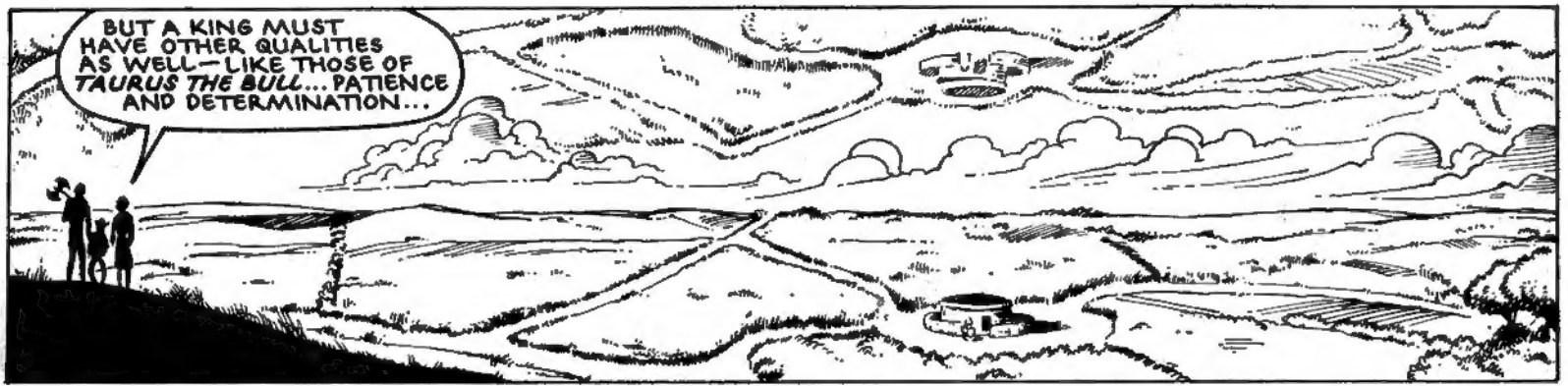
Tharg,

It won't be long now until 2000 AD reaches its mega 500th issue – that's 500 reasons why the thrill-sucker is as extinct as the Dodo. I can't help wondering how the most popular, heroic mag in the universe will commemorate such a momentous occasion...how about a one-off gallery parading the many colourful characters who have graced the 500 issues of this zarjaz comic? My favourites down the years have been *Flesh*, *Sam Slade*, *Halo Jones*, *Slaine*, *The Meltdown Man*, *Judge Dredd* (of course), *Skizz* and, in particular, *Nemesis*. Really, the list seems endless. In any case, O emerald one, no matter what Your Mightyness decides to do I'm sure it will be an occasion to savour.

From Earthlet Jim Alexander, Ardrossan, Ayrshire. £5 Winner.

Many and varied are the delights of my magical Prog 500, and it is interesting that you should stumble upon one of them. The 500th cover of my cosmic comic will be a wraparound poster – printed on fine glossy paper – featuring original drawings of past and present 2000 AD characters, put together by no less than 20 of my most gifted Art Robots. Avoid the shame and disappointment of missing this thrill-fest, Terrans: reserve your copy now!











NEXT: **THE TITAN & THE LION!**



2000AD
Credit Card:
SCRIPT: ROBERT
GRANT/GROVER
ART: ROBERT
BELARDINELLI
LETTERING: ROBERT
T. JACOB
COMPU-73E

SCENE 19: HOT ON THE TRAIL OF THE TREASURE OF MOVIEOLA,
OUR HEROES MEET THE MIGHTY KONG—



THE BONY
BUDDY'S RIGHT,
BIG DADDY! WE
TASTES WORSE
'N PRIME
DOODOO!







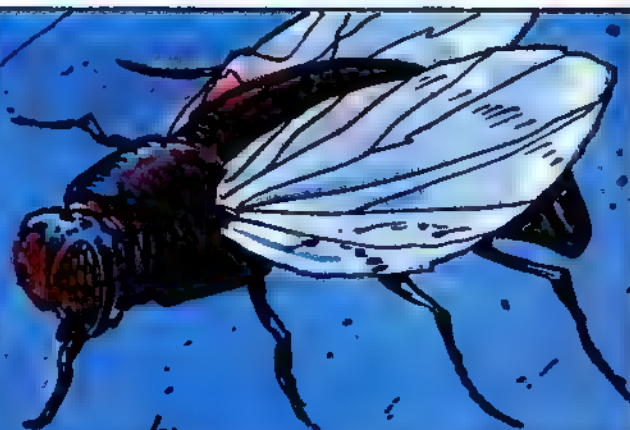


IN THE GREAT COSMIC CHANGING ROOM OF LIFE, OUR MORTAL BODIES ARE BUT A PAIR OF ECCENTRIC DESIGNER JEANS WHICH WE TRY ON AND DISCARD ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

IN OTHER WORDS, INSIDE EVERY FAT MISERABLE PERSON THERE'S A THIN GRINNING SKELETON... WAITING, KNOWING THAT ITS TIME WILL COME.

EH, SWIFTY! I'M THE FLY ON THE WALL. TRAPPED IN HERE WHEN THE BOARDMEETING STARTED 500 YEARS AGO.

NOTHING TO DO WITH MYSELF BUT LEARN A FEW LANGUAGES AND MEDITATE ON THE SECRET OF THE UNIVERSE.



by Milligan McEarth FRAMES

Sooner or Later....

WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER, SWIFTY. I KNOW A WAY OUT. BUT I NEED A BIG STRONG BOY LIKE YOU TO HELP ME...

OR DO YOU WANT TO HEAR THE SECRET OF THE UNIVERSE FIRST?

UH...NAW... THINK I'D LIKE TO ESCAPE FIRST.

RIGHT. KICK THAT DOOR, HARD AS YOU CAN.

YOU TRAVEL ACROSS THE VAST EXPANSES OF TIME... AND STILL END UP PUTTING THE BOOT IN

BOOT

STEADY, DARLING! ALMOST TOOK ME HINGES OFF!

THE DOOR'S ALIVE!

OF COURSE! THAT'S THE DOOR OF PLENTY!

BEEN SLEEPING FOR THE LAST FEW CENTURIES. HAVEN'T YOU DEAR?

HOW DOES THIS HELP US, FLY? THERE'S ENOUGH WEIRDOS IN THE WORLD WITHOUT ANOTHER ONE WAKING UP

THE DOOR OF PLENTY IS UNIQUE, MICKY. WHEREVER IT STANDS, IT BECOMES A DOORWAY INTO ANOTHER PLACE.

THAT'S OUR ESCAPE FROM THE BOARDROOM.

AND SO... WITH A LIGHTNESS OF STEP, A BOLDNESS OF HEART, A KEENNESS OF EYE AND AN ITCHINESS OF THAT LITTLE BIT OF GRISTLE YOU GET IN THE CORNER OF YOUR ARMPIT... OUR CHUMS SALLY FORTH THROUGH THE DOOR OF PLENTY.

NOW DO YOU WANT TO KNOW THE SECRET OF THE UNIVERSE?

UHH, CAN IT WAIT, FLY?

I FANCY BEING IGNORANT A BIT LONGER.

NEXT: THE BONFIRE KNIGHT!

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EVERYONE'S A WALLY

Mikro-Gen

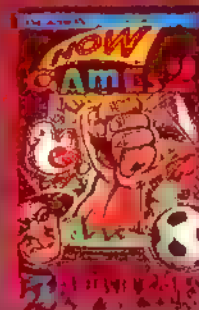
This is a multi-screened arcade adventure featuring excellent cartoon graphics and lots of humour. Use your ingenuity to get the gang working and uncover the combination to the wages safe.

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Domark

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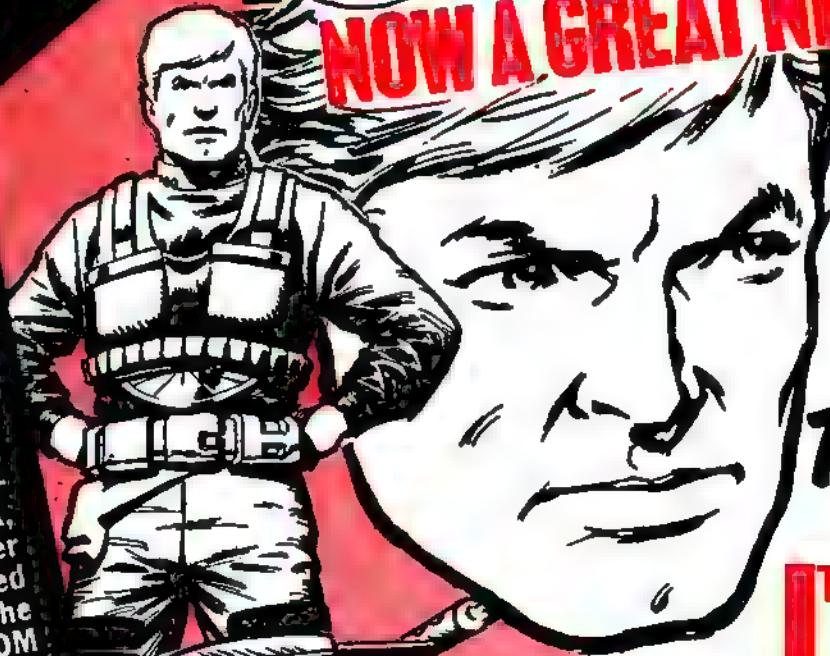
MASK

V. VENOM

VENOM™

LINED up against MASK is the Vicious Evil Network Of Mayhem — VENOM. This deadly team of terror was formed by the evil genius Miles Mayhem, Matt's former boss in the Peaceful Nations Alliance (PNA). Mayhem treacherously sold his highly-sophisticated weapons system to Contraworld — the arch enemy of the PNA — who in return offered Mayhem power and money to satisfy his evil needs. Only MASK can stop him... but the battle will be hard and long!

IMAGINE a world where there is more to reality than meets the eye. Where illusion and deception team up with man and machine to create a world of sophisticated vehicles and weaponry, manned by agents and counter agents. Welcome to the world of MASK. MOBILE ARMOURD STRIKE KOMMAND. Leader of engineer multi-millionaire Matt Trakker has pledged to save the world from the terror organisation VENOM but his task won't be easy!

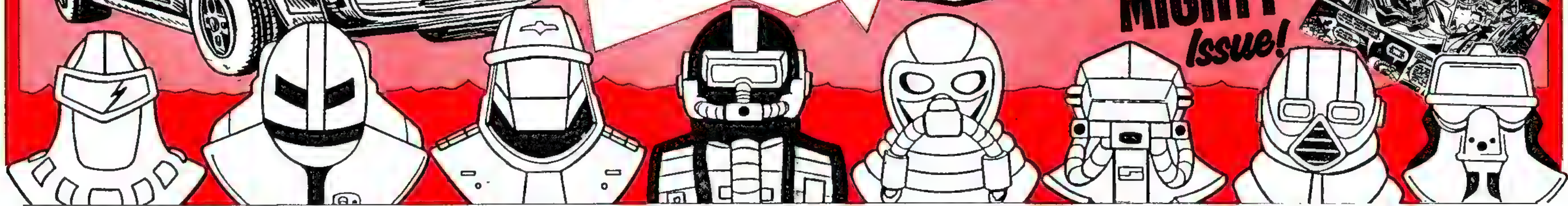


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MASK

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SOUVENIR

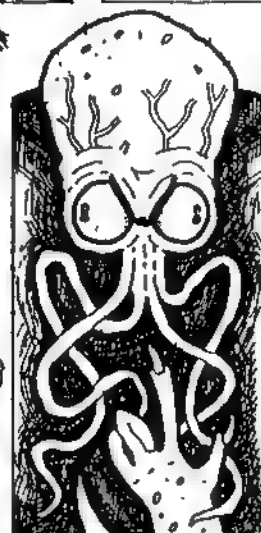
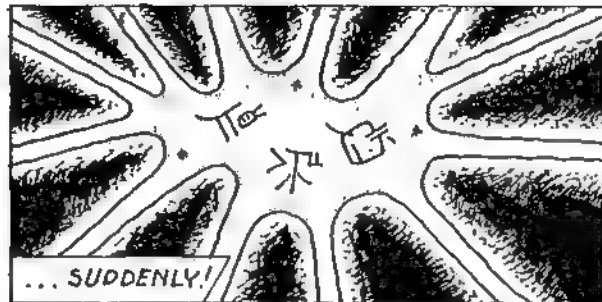
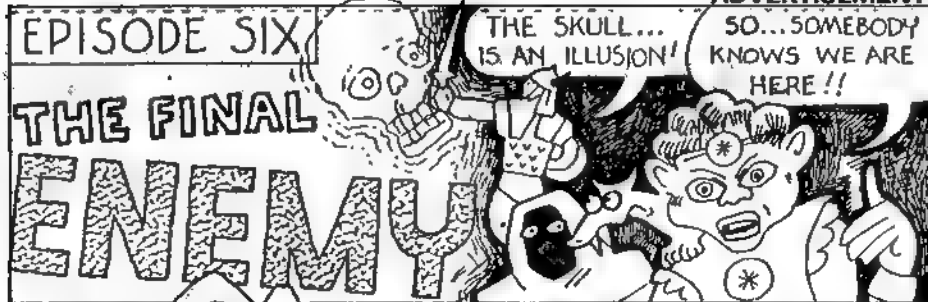
WRAPAROUND COVER
AND CENTRE PAGE POSTER



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RESERVATION
COUPON

TO MY NEWSAGENT

Please reserve/deliver* 1 thrill-powered copy of 2000 AD each week.

NAME

ADDRESS

Signature of Parent/Guardian*

*delete as applicable

2000 AD'S FIGHTING
LEGEND—BACK IN ACTION!

ROGUE TROOPER



WE'RE STILL **ALIVE!**



I **KNEW** WE'D SURVIVE!



PROG **FOUR-
NINE-FIVE!**

...AND
IN
PROG
500...

EMESIS

THE WARLOCK

BOOK SIX

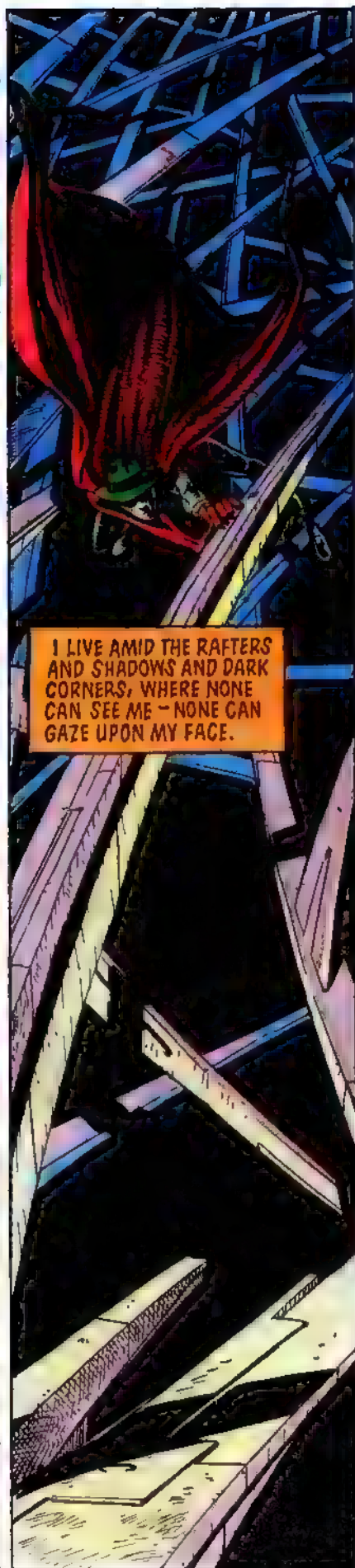
THE
SHATTERING
CONCLUSION!



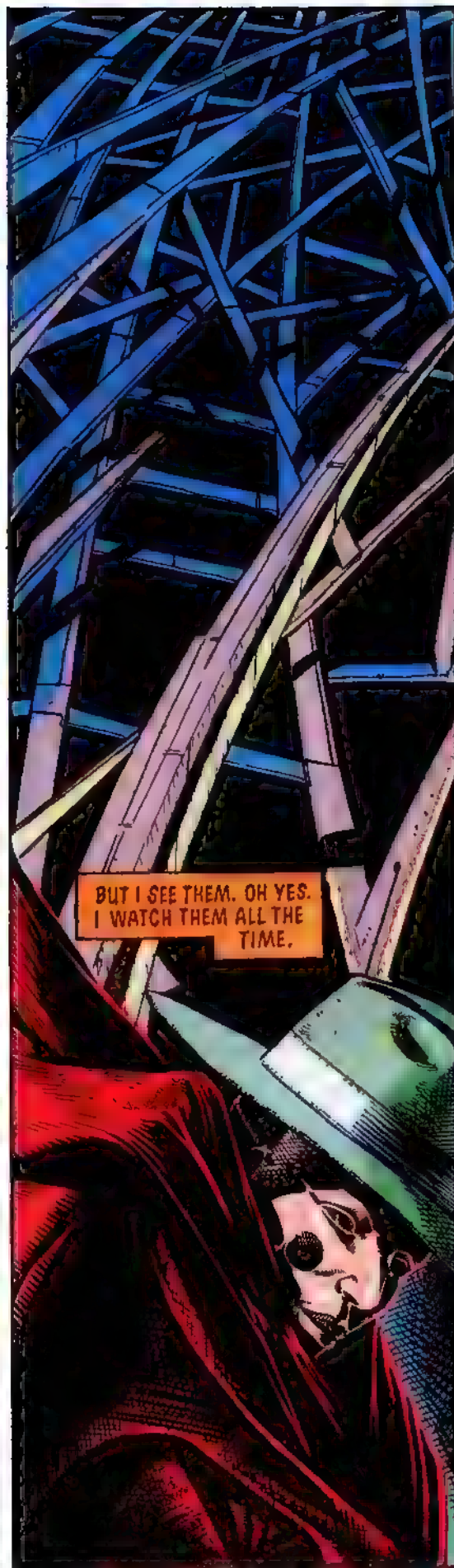
BRYAN TALBOT '85



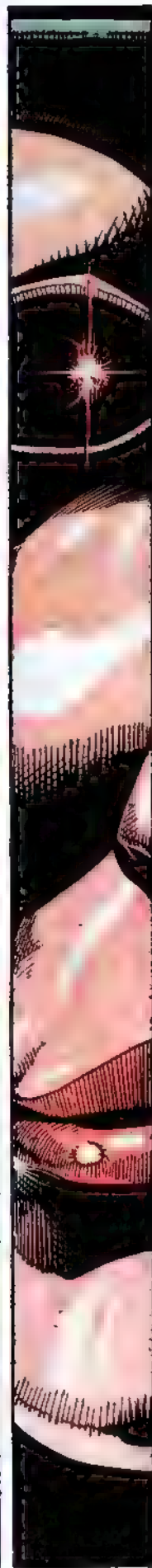
I AM THE
PHANTOM.



I LIVE AMID THE RAFTERS
AND SHADOWS AND DARK
CORNERS, WHERE NONE
CAN SEE ME - NONE CAN
GAZE UPON MY FACE.



BUT I SEE THEM. OH YES.
I WATCH THEM ALL THE
TIME.



JUDGE DREDD

PHANTOM OF THE SHOPPERA
PART ONE



I HAVE MY FAVOURITE PLACES, MY WATCHING HOLES.
WINDOWS ON THE WORLD OF LIGHT BELOW, JUST
BEYOND MY GRASP...

AND MY HEART ACHES.

ONCE, ABOUT A YEAR AFTER I BECAME
THE PHANTOM, THE LONGING BECAME
TOO GREAT AND I STOLE INTO A
DARKENED SHOP...

COATS

...AND DONNED A DISGUISE TO
CONCEAL MY HIDEOUS FEATURES



EVEN NOW I SOMETIMES GO AMONGST THEM. A FLEETING
SHADOW IN THE CONCRETE MAZE OF THE SHOPPERA...



BUT IT ONLY MAKES THE LONGING
WORSE. SO CLOSE...

...AND YET SO
PAINFULLY FAR.



THE PHANTOM!
IT'S THE
PHANTOM!



HEY! GET LOST, WEIRDO!



THE PHANTOM OF
THE SHOPPERA!
I-I SAW HIM!

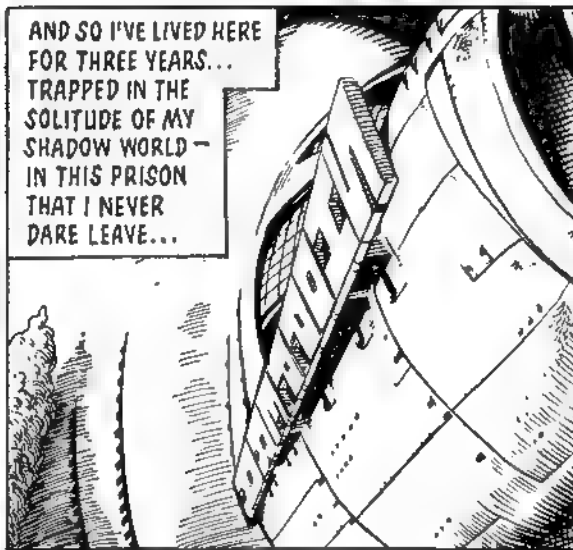


AH, IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION,
WOMAN. AIN'T NO SUCH THING
AS THE PHANTOM!



BUT I SAW HIM! HE TOUCHED ME!

AND SO I'VE LIVED HERE FOR THREE YEARS... TRAPPED IN THE SOLITUDE OF MY SHADOW WORLD - IN THIS PRISON THAT I NEVER DARE LEAVE...



ALAS! PITY A POOR PHANTOM!



IN THE THREE YEARS SINCE THE GIANT SHOPPING COMPLEX WAS COMPLETED, THE PHANTOM HAD GROWN INTO AN URBAN LEGEND. THE SHOPPERA TRADERS' ASSOCIATION DID LITTLE TO DISCOURAGE THE RUMOURS. THE PHANTOM WAS GOOD FOR BUSINESS.



I-I DID SEE HIM, JUDGE! I WOULDN'T LIE TO YOU!



YOU'D BETTER NOT, CITIZEN. YOU SAY HE TOUCHED YOU?

WELL, NOT QUITE - BUT HE WAS GOING TO... HE WAS WEARING A MASK AND A CLOAK. HE LOOKED REALLY WEIRD!



SO WHAT? WHO DOESN'T?

AREN'T YOU GOING TO GO AFTER HIM?



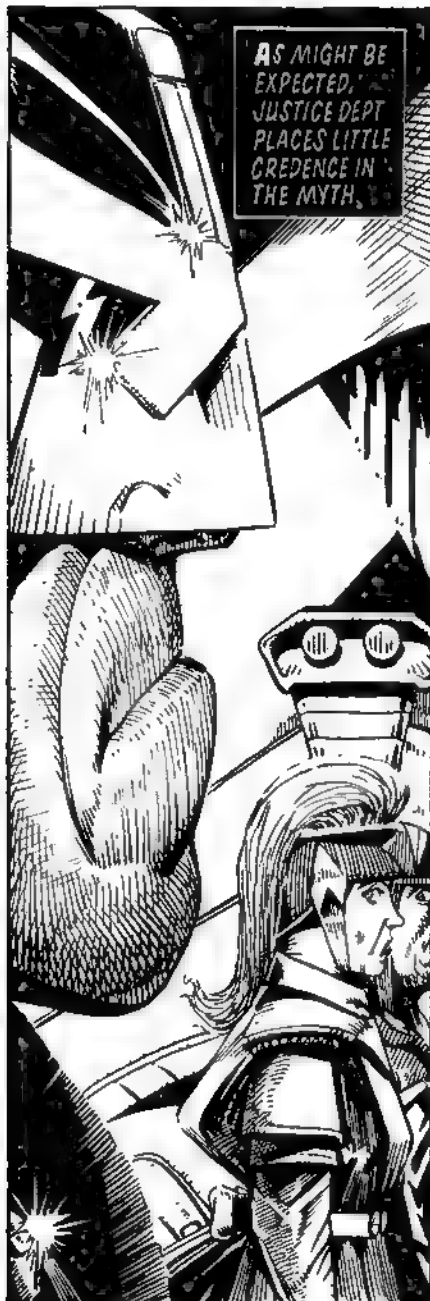
THE WAY I SEE IT, CITIZEN, IF IT **WAS** THIS SUPPOSED PHANTOM, HE'S COMMITTED NO OFFENCE. LOOKING LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO **TOUCH** SOMEONE IS NOT YET A CRIME.

AND IF IT **WASN'T** THE PHANTOM - IF IT WAS JUST YOUR OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION - THEN YOU'RE COMING DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO **WASTING MY TIME.**

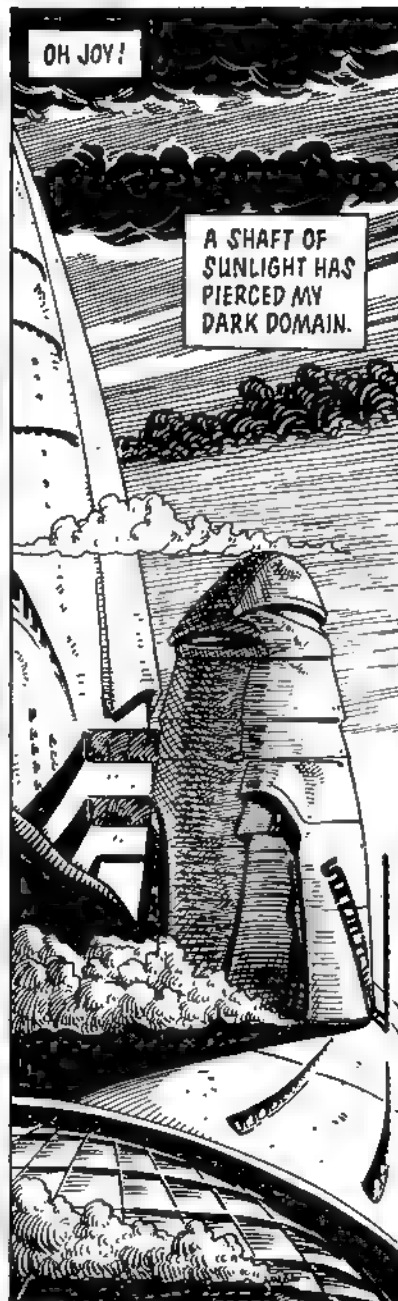


NOW GET ON WITH YOUR SHOPPING BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND AND **BOOK YOU.**

B-B-B-BUT -



AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, JUSTICE DEPT PLACES LITTLE CREDECE IN THE MYTH.



OH JOY!

A SHAFT OF SUNLIGHT HAS PIERCED MY DARK DOMAIN.



I AM IN LOVE!



IN LOVE WITH A VISION OF UNSURPASSED LOVELINESS WHO HAS COME TO WORK ON THE UNISEX LINGERIE COUNTER AT **GRAFFY'S.**

A CREATURE SO FAIR AND GENTLE, WITH SPARKLING EYES AND RAVEN HAIR AND SKIN CREAMY SMOOTH AND FLAWLESS... SO UNLIKE MY OWN RAVAGED FEATURES.

WHICH OF US CAN UNDERSTAND LOVE?
CERTAINLY NOT I. BUT I KNOW THAT WHEN MY
DARLING SMILES, I SMILE TOO - AND WHEN MY
DARLING LAUGHS, IT IS LIKE THE TINKLING OF
SWEET BELLS IN MY SOUL.



YET MY JOY IS BLACKENED BY DESPAIR.
OH, BITTER FATE THAT MADE ME A MONSTER!
THAT BRINGS MY TRUE LOVE FOR ME TO GAZE
UPON - BUT NEVER TO BE MINE.

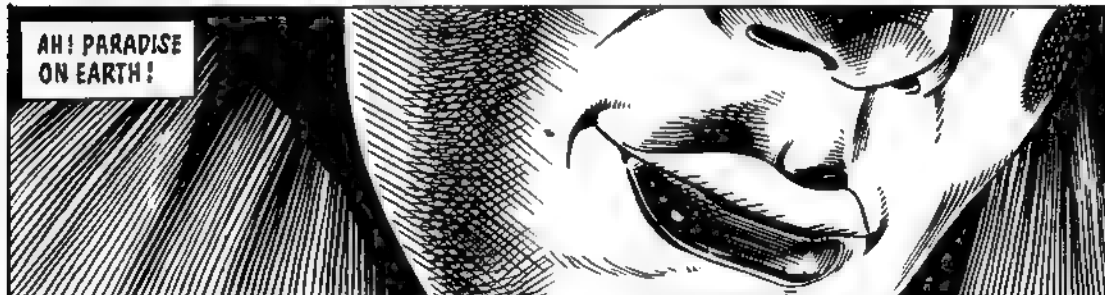


NO! I CANNOT BEAR IT! MY TORTURE HAS
GONE ON LONG ENOUGH! WE WILL BE
TOGETHER!

MY LEGS GO WEAK
AT THE THOUGHT.
MY BEAUTY - HERE
- IN OUR DEN
AMONGST THE
RAFTERS...



AH! PARADISE
ON EARTH!



MY DESIRE WILL
ADMIT NO DELAY!
WE MUST BE
TOGETHER NOW!



THE PHANTOM!
THE PHANTOM
OF THE
SHOPPERA!

DARLING!
I HAVE COME
FOR YOU!

OH MOLEY!



LEAVE HER
ALONE, YOU!

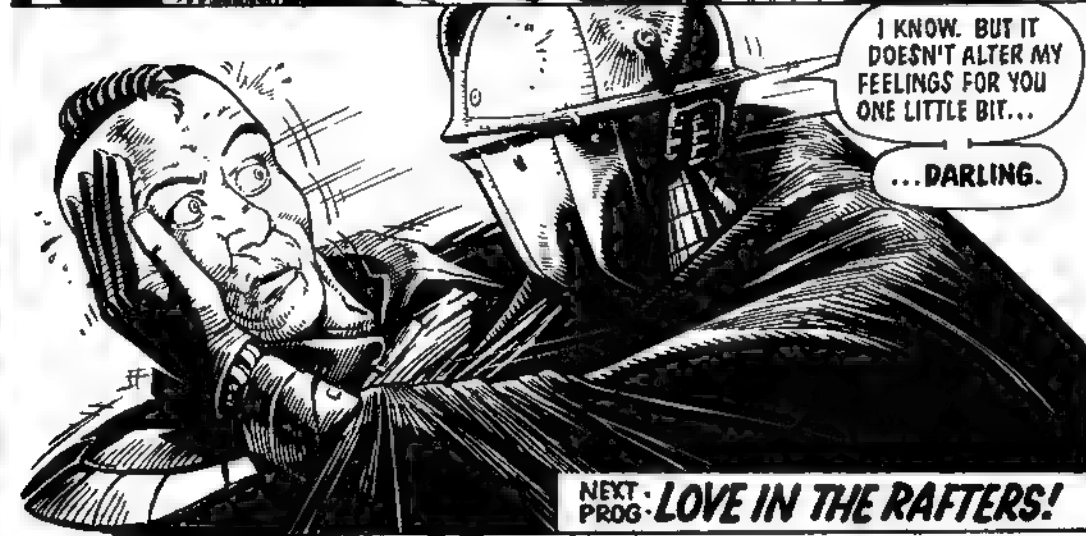
GLADLY...



...MY LOVE!

HUH?





MORNING. THE FROGETT
PLACE ON MAYGER MINOR—

OUR NEW
BARN, MA—IT'S
FINISHED!

WHAT A
BEAUT,
HUH?

Strontium DOG

INCIDENT
ON **MAYGER
MINOR**

PART 5

THERE'S A LIST OF
EVERYTHING WE LOST
IN THE FIRE, MR...

OH! IT SEEMS SO
SILLY CALLING
YOU "MR ALPHA"
AFTER EVERY-
THING YOU'VE
DONE FOR US.

MAY I...
MAY I CALL
YOU JOHN?

SUIT
YOURSELF.

2000AD
Credit Card

SCRIPT ROBOT
ALAN GRANT
ART ROBOT
C. EZQUERRA
LETTERING ROBOT
KID ROBSON

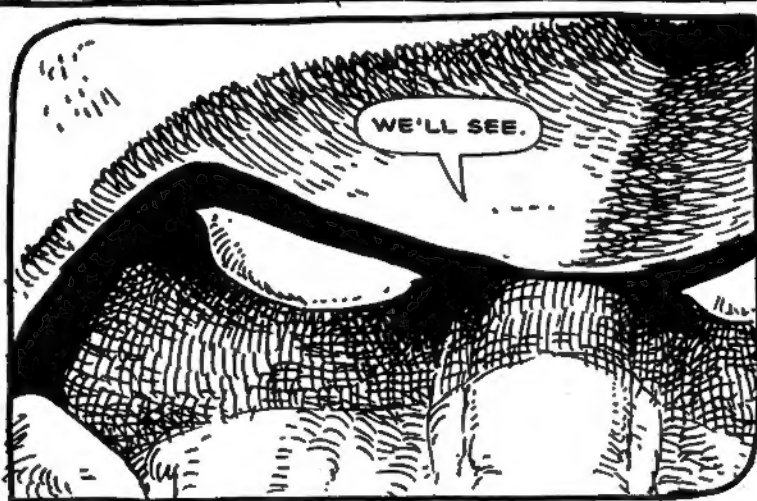
COMPU-73





IT IS LATE AFTERNOON WHEN CY GOOBER RIDES IN—







INTRODUCING THE TREMENDOUS TRIO

CHARLES 'THE BRAIN'
HENRY 'MUSCLES'
AND
PETER K. BOT

CHARLES, HENRY AND PETER K. BOT
HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF THEIR
BOX TO SORT OUT AN URGENT
PROBLEM. THERE IS A ROGUE
VACUUM-CLEANER RUNNING WILD
IN THE LIVING ROOM, AND THE
MISSION IS TO **SEEK OUT
AND DISABLE!!**

RIGHT, MEN,
GO GET IT!

HERE'S WHAT
WE'RE GOING
TO DO, BOYS.

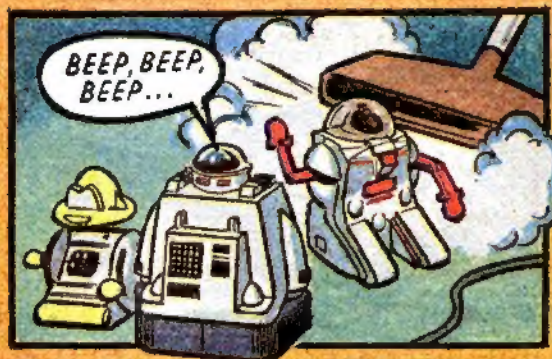
LOOK
OUT!

LEAVE IT
TO ME.

WELL DONE,
CHAPS!

OH, IT WAS
NOTHING,
REALLY.

WHAT YOU MIGHT
CALL A SUCCESSFUL
CLEAN-UP
OPERATION, WOULDN'T
YOU SAY?



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Address _____

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